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by the low ebb of our commodity Tobacco; and invited by the example of the Virginia merchants, who are petitioning the Parliament of Great Britain against the high dutys; we have thought it necessary to transmitt a Representation of our case to the Lords Commissioners for Trade and plantations. But foreseeing that nothing will promise us better hopes of success than the countenance of your Hon^r to this undertaking, and your giving credit to our Representation so far as the facts therein mentioned fall within your knowledge; from the frequent experience we have had of your innate goodness and great readiness upon all occasions to promote the service of her Majesty and the welfare of her subjects under your Governm^t, we are emboldened to become humble suitors to your Hon^r to take this affair under your care, and to employ your interest and zeal in behalf of this poor Country, as far as in your prudence you shall judge their miseries deserve. This will be an inestimable obligation on all our fellow subjects here and never to be forgotten by.

May it please your Honour, your Honour's

Most obliged and most obedient humble servants,

John Smith,	Robert Carter,
John Lewis,	Jno. Custis,
W. Byrd,	James Blair,
Will ffitzhugh,	Hen. Duke.

RESOLUTIONS OF HOUSE OF BURGESSES, September 2d, 1715.

[As is well known to all students of the early Eighteenth Century history of Virginia, the session of the General Assembly which met on August 2, 1715, was chiefly memorable for a bitter quarrel between Governor Spotswood and the House of Burgesses. The Governor convened the Assembly that help might be given to South Carolina, then in great danger from the Indians. The House voted a sum of money for this purpose; but insisted on making the appropriation a rider to a bill altering the tobacco law. The Governor would not give his consent

and the House would not recede, so the appropriation was not made. Other subjects of dispute arose—the refusal of the Governor to aid in the arrest, in accordance with the wishes of the House, of Richard Littlepage and Thomas Butts, two justices of New Kent, who had refused to certify certain grievances to the Assembly; and the expulsion by the Burgesses of two members who had offered to serve without charge.

In the *Southern Literary Messenger* for 1851, pp. 585–604, are printed lengthy extracts from the journal of the Upper House at this session, but the resolutions of the Burgesses, of September 2d, which so highly excited the Governor's anger, are not printed there, and, it is believed, appear here for the first time. The Speaker of the House at this session was Daniel McCarty, of Westmoreland county.

In this dispute both parties seem to have been to blame. The Governor was probably right in the view he took of most of the subjects under discussion; but lost his temper and was arrogant and abusive. The House was narrow-minded and obstinate.

The message referred to immediately below was from the Governor, and is one of the documents printed in the *Messenger*.]

Burgesses Resolves upon the foregoing Message, 2d Sept.

By the House of Burgesses.

Resolved, That the Hon^{ble} the Lieu^t Governour by his Agreement with the House of Burgesses at their Session in 1714, hath engaged to defend the Frontiers of this Colony untill December 1716, for the Several Summs of money & Tobacco then given him for that purpose.

Resolved, That this House by giving four hundred and fifty pounds for the assistance of the People of South Carolina, in the manner that money was given, had a real intention to relieve those people, and did expect the Inhabitants of Virginia might be relieved from the hardships of the Tobacco Law by the Same Act.

Resolved, That besides the Common Taxes for Levys, the duty of two Shillings ^{per} Hogsh^d upon tobacco and the duty upon Liquors and Slaves, this Country is burthened with an extraor-

dinary imposition upon Tobacco for the use of the Tobacco Agents, which is more Grievous than any publick Tax.

Resolved, That the Resolution made by this House upon the Complaint made concerning the first Election of Burgesses to Serve for the County of Warwick, was according to the Law of this Colony.

Resolved, That what delays have happened in our proceedings, have been Occasioned by the Lieu^t Governour's denying to assist the House in their just Rights and priviledges.

Resolved, That the true and only motive to this House for ascertaining and insisting on their Rights and priviledges against Some justices was to Support and maintain the Rights and Libertys of the People, against such as endeavoured to deprive them of the benefite given by Law to represent their Grievances to the General Assembly.

Resolved, That the papers of Grievances refused to be certified by the Justices of New Kent Court did not contain in them any thing false or Seditious. And that the s^d Justices being the first that have refused to certify the Grievances of the People to the Generall Assembly ought to be the first punished at the Bar of the House of Burgesses for an offence of that nature.

Resolved, That this House of Burgesses ought not to be stigmatized with the denomination of a Sett of men obstinately bent to do nothing for the Safety and Dignity of His Majesties Government, but upon the hardest Conditions, for only Sincerely endeavouring and pursuing those Methods they think most proper to redeem the Country from that almost intolerable burthen imposed on the People, no ways for the Support or Dignity of this Government, there being in the Bill passed by this House, better provision made for the payment of the Clergy, publick Creditors & officers than in that Law which at first was projected for that purpose.

Resolved, That by the refusal of the Hon^{ble} the Lieu^t Governor to grant his aid to compell Richard Littlepage and Thomas Butts of New Kent County to appear at the Bar of this House, the Burgesses are denied their just Rights and priviledges.

Resolved, That the Message from the Lieutenant Governor

of the 27th of August last contains in it undeserved and Scandalous Reflections upon the Persons and proceedings of this House of Burgesses.

(MSS.. Va. State Library.)

VIRGINIA MILITIA IN THE REVOLUTION.

(CONTINUED)

April 24. Respass, Thomas, for boarding a wounded soldier at Gwin's Island, ₤ acco't, 6. —. —.

May 9. Riddich, Jason, for pay at Suffolk, ₤ Acco't, 2. 10. —.

14. Roathwell, Claiborne, for a Rifle furnished Cap't Nich's Lewis's Min' Comp', 4. 5. —.

16. Rochester, Cap't John, for a Drum & fife for his Comp' Westmorel'd Militia, 2. 16. —.

Richardson, D' Turner, for Attend^{ce}, &c., to 3 of Cap't Thompson's Comp', 6. 15. 3.

24. Ripley, Richard, for 1 Gun furnished Cap't Ballow's Min' Comp', 5. —. —.

Ronalds, Archelus, for 1 Do., Ditto, 4. 15. —.

31. Russell, William, for pay & rations as Lieu't. Col. on Cherokee Expedⁿ, ₤ Acco't, 75. —. —.

Rediford, for one horse lost on Cherokee Exped'n, ₤ Mr. Madison's Cert., 7. 5. —.

Roane, William, for 3 days pay & rations as Lieut. Col. of Essex Militia, &c., ₤ Acco't, 4. 19. 4½.

June 21. Russell, William, for pay & rations as Lieut. Col'o for 27 days to Aug. 9, 1776, ₤ Acco't, 20. 5. —.

June 23. Riddick, Willis, for pay removing Inhab'ts of Norfolk, &c., by order Council, £23. —. —.

26. Randolph, Charles, for Work done on Fort Stephen (See Hardress Waller), 3. 15. —.

27. Rogers, Jonathan, to carriage of Lead, ₤ Cert. of Com. West, Augusta, 5. —. —.

(TO BE CONTINUED)